

# The VVFC News Alert BACKPAGE December 2002

## Holiday Shipping Schedule

Because of upcoming holidays, **we will not be shipping vaccine from December 23rd to January 3rd.** Orders received by 4pm December 12th will be shipped December 16th as scheduled. *Any order received between 4pm December 12th and 4pm January 2nd will not be shipped until January 6th.*

## Prevnar: 4th dose deferred

The ACIP has revised recommendations to conserve Prevnar vaccine. The ACIP recommends vaccination with a maximum of three doses. ***The fourth dose continues to be deferred.*** The vaccination of high-risk children less than 5 years of age should remain unchanged (i.e., the full number of doses recommended by ACIP in October of 2000; See also the December 2001 issue of the BackPage). Providers are expected to maintain a list of children for whom Prevnar vaccine has been deferred so they can be recalled when the supply situation allows. Vaccine supply has improved; however, Virginia continues to adhere to the vaccine administration schedule by ACIP for use under moderate shortage conditions.

## Look VVFC Awards!

*Congratulations on outstanding VVFC Compliance!*



**Richeson Drive Pediatrics, Inc.  
Lynchburg, Virginia**

"Transcribing a child's immunization history onto the VVFC Vaccine Administration and Screening Record has made it less time-consuming to review immunization histories at subsequent visits and improved our immunization rates."

*Sharon Smith, M.A.*

*Richeson Drive Pediatrics, Inc.*

## Update Your Order Forms

Using the most updated order form will help the VVFC Order Center correctly identify the vaccines you want in the package sizes you want. Don't forget...

1. *copy the order form in this mailing and use it for your next order*
2. *order in doses, not vials for accurate vaccine orders*
3. *indicate correct package sizes*
4. *orders should be placed for a three month supply (unless otherwise authorized by VVFC)*



## Influenza Vaccine

**All Influenza vaccine orders have been shipped in full.** If you would like to place an additional order, please call the Order Center at 1-877-781-VVFC. Orders will be filled until the stock is depleted.

## HIPAA Regulations



VVFC Quality Assurance visits have raised many questions in regards to HIPAA regulations. HIPAA legislation, 45 CFR § 164.512(d)(1), allows a physician to disclose records to a health agency, such as VVFC, for which health information is necessary for determining compliance with program standards. For more information on HIPAA legislation, please refer to the full regulatory text listed at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/regtext.html>.

## High-Risk only vaccines Hepatitis A Vaccine

Virginia does not qualify as a high-risk state so we do not routinely vaccinate children for Hepatitis A. Groups considered to be at high risk and eligible to receive this vaccine include Alaskan Natives, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, male homosexuals, users of illegal drugs, patients with chronic liver disease, liver transplants, or clotting factor disorders, and international travelers to countries with intermediate or high hepatitis rates. Patients who are immunosuppressed may also receive this vaccine.

## Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine

The Pneumococcal Polysaccharide vaccine (PPV-23) is recommended for children 2 years of age or older with long-term illnesses that are associated with a high risk of serious pneumococcal infections; functional or anatomical asplenia, sickle cell disease, nephrotic syndrome, or CSF leaks. Children with immunosuppression, including HIV, should also be vaccinated. It is also recommended for Alaskan Natives and Native Americans.



**QUESTIONS? CALL VVFC  
1-800-568-1929**

**VDH** VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT  
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